

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01951 280811Z

20

ACTION EB-11

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CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11 INT-08

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, ENRG, FI

SUBJECT: FINLAND EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT
ENERGY TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT, 1974.

REF: STATE 194953

1. SUMMARY FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTESTS ENERGY TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT, 1974, AS DISCRIMINATORY AND CONTRARY TO PROVISIONS AND SPIRIT OF TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE AND CONSULAR RIGHTS BETWEEN U.S. AND FINLAND.
END SUMMARY.

2. DEPUTY CHIEF OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC POLICY DIVISION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, KAARLO YRJO-KOSKINEN, CALLED ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR HUGHES TO MINISTRY SEPTEMBER 27 TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING U.S.
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PAGE 02 HELSIN 01951 280811Z

ENERGY TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT, HR 8193. HE NOTED

THAT PREVIOUSLY FINLAND HAD JOINED WITH OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES' REPRESENTATIONS IN SEVERAL NORDIC CAPITALS AND IN WASHINGTON. FOREIGN MINISTRY NOW WANTED TO MAKE QUITE CLEAR ITS SERIOUS CONCERN WITH HR 8193, WHICH IT BELIEVES IS DISCRIMINATORY AND, IF IT BECOMES U.S. LAW, CONTRARY TO PROVISIONS AND SPIRIT OF TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE AND CONSULAR RIGHTS BETWEEN FINLAND AND U.S. SIGNED FEBRUARY 13, 1934. TEXT OF POUR MEMOIRE IS GIVEN IN PARA. 4, BELOW.

3. HUGHES REMINDED YRJO-KOSKINEN OF CONSISTENT OPPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO ENACTMENT OF THIS LEGISLATION. PRESENT STATUS OF BILL NOT CERTAIN BUT PRESUMABLY IT WAS IN HOUSE-SENATE CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES BEFORE GOING TO PRESIDENT. HUGHES UNDERTOOK TO FORWARD IMMEDIATELY TO DEPARTMENT THIS REITERATION OF FINNISH VIEWS ON HR 8193.

4. TEXT OF P.M.--

QUOTE. CONCERNING THE OIL IMPORT RESERVATION BILL (HR 8193) WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON MAY 8, 1974 AND BY THE SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1974: THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRESENT BILL WHICH IS DISCRIMINATORY AND WOULD, IF IMPLEMENTED, HAVE DETRIMENTAL CONSEQUENCES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND SHIPPING AND A CONSIDERABLE NEGATIVE EFFECT ON FINNISH SHIPPING. THE BILL WOULD RESERVE AN INCREASING PROPORTION (UP TO 30 PER CENT IN 1977) OF UNITED STATES OIL IMPORTS TO UNITED STATES FLAG VESSELS. AT PRESENT THIS SHARE IS ABOUT 7 PER CENT. THE ABOVE MENTIONED OIL IMPORT RESERVATION BILL WOULD EARN A REGRETTABLE CHANGE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES BY ADDING NEW RESTRICTIONS ON FREEDOM OF TRADE AT A TIME WHEN WORLD TRADE IS ALREADY ENDANGERED BY COSTS AND SHORTAGES. THE ADOPTION OF CARGO RESERVATION PRACTICES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIELD OF OIL IMPORTS WOULD GIVE FURTHER IMPETUS TO THE SPREAD OF FLAG DISCRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL CARGOES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE BILL, IF ADOPTED, WOULD FURTHERMORE BE CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 HELSIN 01951 280811Z

SPIRIT OF THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE AND CONSULAR RIGHTS BETWEEN FINLAND AND THE UNITED STATES SIGNED ON FEBRUARY 13, 1934. IN VIEW OF ALL THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED BILL THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND WOULD APPRECIATE IF THE NEW RESTRICTIVE MEASURES WOULD NOT BE INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES MARITIME POLICY. END QUOTE.
KREHBIEL

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